

Des Moines area United Methodist churches are sending an Iowa Volunteers In Mission medical mission team to El Salvador March 12-21. We'll work with the existing VIM medical clinic located in Ahuachapán to bring a mobile medical clinic to area villages. Doctors, dentists, nurses, translators and support workers will provide basic medical and dental work, health education and some good fun as we build life transforming relationships.

Manuel Catalan and his wife, Ena Aguilar Catalan, are from Chipilapa - one of the villages where we'll be working. They have had an amazing journey from war-torn El Salvador to Iowa to become U.S. citizens and are now bringing their church, the Las Americas faith community at Trinity UMC, back to their home village to serve the people there – connecting Des Moines and the 900 people of Chipilapa.

We invite YOU to be part of this medical mission team - even if you never leave Iowa! We ask you to collect any of the following over-the-counter supplies that we'll take to El Salvador, give us a call and we'll pick them up. Over the counter supplies must be collected by **February 10th, 2010**. Any financial contributions are welcomed until **March 1, 2010** and made to Las Americans Faith Community, PO Box 41006, Des Moines, IA 50311. Then we ask you to invite any members of the team to your church or group to share our experiences with you. We hope our stories will transform your lives as they have ours.

El Salvador is a very poor country whose needs are immense. Its people were dragged through a civil war from 1980-92 and the country continues to be plagued by violence and poverty. The Iowa VIM team feels privileged to be bearers of God's grace, love and hope and we are anxious to be transformed by God's grace, love and hope as we experience it through the El Salvadoran people.

Please accept our offer to be part of this incredible ministry!

In Christ,
Rev. Barb Dinnen
515-490-1234

Supplies

Waterless hand cleaner/sanitizer	2x2 gauze pads	4x4 gauze pads
Gauze wrap	Band Aids	Tape
Tongue blades	Isopropyl alcohol	Alcohol swabs
6-inch cotton-tipped applicators	Thermometers (non-mercury)	
Otoscope/ophthalmoscope	BP cuffs	Stethoscopes
Small & large ear speculum covers		

Medications

Generic Advil (Ibuprofen): adult and pediatric dosages
Generic Tylenol (acetaminophen): adult and pediatric dosages

Cold meds

Eye drops, both medicated and non-medicated

Stomach aids: antacids, “Tums” type, ranitidine or others

Topical anesthetics

Vitamins:

Adult and children’s w/ iron

pre-natal vitamins

Ointments and creams:

Triple antibiotic ointment

Mupirocin (Bactroban)

Antifungals

Hydrocortisone cream

A & D

Children’s activities – just for fun

Bubbles

Balloons

Stickers

Beads – all kinds, all colors

Threads and bead accessories

Embroidery floss – all colors

Small toys – like from Oriental Trading

DVDs in Spanish

Dream list

We’d love to take a projector, a DVD player and even a laptop computer so that the local school can host ‘movie nights’ and earn money for itself and the community.